



## Alameda Corridor-East Construction Authority

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## BOARD TO APPROVE \$172.6 MILLION CONTRACT TO CONSTRUCT TRAIN TRENCH IN CITY OF SAN GABRIEL

San Gabriel, CA – The Alameda Corridor-East (ACE) Construction Authority Board of Directors is scheduled to award on Monday a \$172.6 million contract to construct a 1.4-mile railroad trench for Union Pacific freight and Amtrak passenger trains with street bridges built at four crossings, among the most significant public works projects ever undertaken in the City of San Gabriel.

The contract is recommended to be awarded to the lowest bidder, Walsh Construction Co. of Chicago, a leading heavy construction contractor whose unit handling the project is based in Walnut Creek, California. The ACE Construction Authority's largest single undertaking, the Trench project will create almost 9,000 jobs over nearly five years of construction.

"This contract award represents an historic step toward eliminating emissions and congestion from idling vehicle blocked by passing trains, train noise and collision hazards at all four crossings in the City of San Gabriel," said ACE Board Chairman David R. Gutierrez, a City of San Gabriel Councilman.

"In addition to reducing congestion and improving air quality, this vital project is an important link in our regional strategy of moving cargo containers by train rather than in diesel trucks on our freeways," said Los Angeles County Supervisor, ACE Board Member and current MTA Board Chairman Michael D. Antonovich.

All six construction bids received in late June for the San Gabriel Trench grade separation project were below the ACE engineer's estimate of \$266.8 million. Construction of the project is funded from Prop 1B transportation bonds approved by California voters in 2006, with other project elements funded by MTA Measure R and other local and federal funds. The 2.2-mile project will result in the lowering of Union Pacific railroad track in a 65-foot-wide, 30-foot-deep, 1.4 mile-long trench through the City of San Gabriel. Street bridges will be constructed at Ramona Street, Mission Road, Del Mar Avenue and San Gabriel Boulevard, which cumulatively carry nearly 90,000 vehicles daily.

The ACE program of 22 roadway-rail grade separations and safety improvements at 39 crossings in the San Gabriel Valley was initiated in 1998 along the ACE Trade Corridor which accommodates 60 percent of the trade from the San Pedro Bay ports, the nation's busiest container ports.

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**About the ACE Project:** The ACE program calls for constructing safety improvements at 39 crossings and 22 roadway-railroad grade crossing separations. The ACE Project will relieve traffic congestion, improve safety and reduce emissions and noise at rail crossings while helping ensure the San Gabriel Valley's continued economic vitality. For a copy of the ACE Project DVD, please call (888) ACE-1426 or visit [www.theaceproject.org](http://www.theaceproject.org).